

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method of grouping transportation lanes included in a plurality of transportation lanes, wherein each transportation lane in the plurality of transportation lanes includes an origination location and a destination location and each transportation lane in the plurality of transportation lanes has an associated transport value, comprising:

creating an origination area;

creating a destination area;

compiling into a lot all lanes in the plurality of transportation lanes having origination locations falling within the origination area and destination locations falling within the destination area;

~~determining whether the total of the transport value of all lanes included within the lot exceeds a predetermined amount;~~

determining with a computer whether fewer than a predetermined number of desirable carriers are available to operate in a lot area comprising the origination area and the destination area; and

storing the lot if it is determined that at least the predetermined number of desirable carriers are available to operate in the lot area

~~iteratively increasing at least one of the origination area and the destination area of the lot to include more lanes within the lot, if it is determined that the total of the transport value for all lanes included within the lot does not exceed a predetermined amount, until the total of the transport value of all lanes included within the lot exceeds a predetermined amount; and~~
~~storing the lot.~~

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising compiling a list of carriers operating in the origination area and the destination area.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the origination location is a facility.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the origination location includes a zone defined by a US postal system code.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the origination location includes a city.
6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the origination location includes a state.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the origination location includes a nation.
8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the origination location includes a predefined geographic area.
9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the destination location is a facility.
10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the destination location includes a zone defined by at least a portion of a US postal system code.
11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the destination location includes a city.
12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the destination location includes a state.
13. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the destination location includes a nation.
14. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the destination location includes a predefined geographic area.
15. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising sorting the lanes by a value of transportation in each lane.
16. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the lanes are stored in a database.

17. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the lot is a first lot and further comprising marking each lane included in the first lot to avoid placing lanes included in the first lot into a second lot.

18. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the lot is a first lot and further comprising removing each lane included in the first lot from a database of available transportation lanes to avoid placing lanes included in the first lot into a second lot.

19. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising creating a plurality of lots, collectively including all lanes in the plurality of transportation lanes

20. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the transport value is an estimated cost of transporting goods in the lot.

21. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the transport value is a quantity of goods to be transported in the lot.

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the lot is created for use in an online auction.

24-28. (Cancelled)

29. (Currently amended) A system for grouping transportation lanes included in a plurality of transportation lanes, wherein each transportation lane in the plurality of transportation lanes includes an origination location and a destination location and each transportation lane in the plurality of transportation lanes has an associated transport value, comprising:

a processor; and

a memory coupled with the processor, wherein the memory is configured to provide the processor with instructions which when executed cause the processor to:

create an origination area;

create a destination area;

compile into a lot all lanes in the plurality of transportation lanes having origination locations falling within the origination area and destination locations falling within the destination area;

~~determine whether the total of the transport value of all lanes included within the lot exceeds a predetermined amount;~~

determine whether fewer than a predetermined number of desirable carriers are available to operate in a lot area comprising the origination area and the destination area;
and

store the lot if it is determined that at least the predetermined number of desirable carriers are available to operate in the lot area

~~iteratively increase at least one of the origination area and the destination area of the lot to include more lanes within the lot, if it is determined that the total of the transport value for all lanes included within the lot does not exceed a predetermined amount, until the total of the transport value of all lanes included within the lot exceeds a predetermined amount; and~~

~~store the lot.~~

30. (Currently amended) A computer program product for grouping transportation lanes included in a plurality of transportation lanes, wherein each transportation lane in the plurality of transportation lanes includes an origination location and a destination location and each transportation lane in the plurality of transportation lanes has an associated transport value, the computer program product being embodied in a computer readable medium and comprising computer instructions for:

creating an origination area;

creating a destination area;

compiling into a lot all lanes in the plurality of transportation lanes having origination locations falling within the origination area and destination locations falling within the destination area;

~~determining whether the total of the transport value of all lanes included within the lot exceeds a predetermined amount;~~

determining whether fewer than a predetermined number of desirable carriers are available to operate in a lot area comprising the origination area and the destination area; and

storing the lot if it is determined that at least the predetermined number of desirable carriers are available to operate in the lot area

~~iteratively increasing at least one of the origination area and the destination area of the lot to include more lanes within the lot, if it is determined that the total of the transport value for all lanes included within the lot does not exceed a predetermined amount, until the total of the transport value of all lanes included within the lot exceeds a predetermined amount; and storing the lot.~~

31. (New) The method of claim 1 further comprising redistributing the lanes within a plurality of other lots if it is determined that fewer than the predetermined number of desirable carriers are available to operate in the lot area.